



CCDL, Inc.
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Connecticut Citizens Defense League, Inc.

To the members of the Public Safety and Security Committee, My name is Scott Wilson Sr. I am the President of Connecticut Citizens Defense League. We are a 2nd Amendment Rights Organization that advocates for the rights of gun owners, and also preach responsible and safe gun ownership for Connecticut citizens. As a citizen of Connecticut and a resident of New London, I am testifying in

Opposition to:

SB #1017 AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY AND THE BOARD OF FIREARMS PERMIT EXAMINERS INTO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, AND TRANSFERRING RESPONSIBILITY FOR AMUSEMENT PARK OVERSIGHT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

With regards to the BFPE portion of this Bill, I and other CCDL members testified against a similar Bill last year. I reiterate the position that moving BFPE under the auspices of DPS would render the board more or less ineffective based on the conflict of interest that would then be presented. DPS not only at times proposes Anti-2nd Amendment legislation, but is often called in as a respondent to hearings at the BFPE. Therefore, there would be a clear one-sided issue with most of the hearings presented and heard before the Board.

Even if it is a matter of the DPS merely managing the paperwork in a clerical fashion, once the BFPE loses autonomy and DPS has a toe-hold in the Boards workings things such as agenda settings, hearing dates and times, possibility of lost paperwork may cause undo outcomes for appellants seeking to be heard in a fair and impartial way.

As I stated approximately two weeks ago before this committee, I as the President of my Organization, receive a significant amount of emails from people around the State that are asking about the appeals process. Many of these questions are the result of simple denials or delays from local Issuing Authorities. People are seeking solutions to these problems so they can be able to exercise their rights in accordance to our Article 1 Sec XV in the Connecticut State Constitution. I ask that we do not let Our State Constitution become mere words on a paper.

**Every citizen has a right
to bear arms in defense
of himself and the state.**
Connecticut State Constitution, Article First, Section 15



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Monetary Consideration:

In 2009, the cost for renewal of a Connecticut Pistol Permit doubled from \$35.00 to \$70.00 for a five year valid carry permit. This cost increase was one of many supposed solutions to the then spiraling budget shortfall. With that increase (doubling) in mind, we as gun owners received zero added benefits or protections to go along with that increase. Therefore, this proposed legislation moves in exactly the wrong direction it should. Our legislators should be doing everything it can to make sure Connecticut citizens are able to exercise their rights with as little obstruction as possible.

I again want to thank the Public Safety and Security Committee for hearing my testimony, and to it's consideration of my heartfelt words.

Sincerely,
Scott Wilson
President
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